

From: Mike Haight
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/16/01 4:42pm
Subject: Antitrust settlement.

To whom this may concern at the ever changing U. S. Department of 'Justice',

I am disappointed with the outcome of this trial. It solves nothing. Microsoft will go about doing business in the same manner that they always have. Throw little innovative companies out of their way by including their own version with the operating system. Their version, when first introduced is always a watered down, less capable version. But, most people are lazy, they do not want to down-load and install. However, I'm not. I want choice. I want the best program out there.

This entire thing has soured me on computers and also this system that is commonly called 'justice'. Here you have a clear monopoly, declared this by two levels of the federal courts, with a wrist slap. Do any of you actually think they will abide by these latest remedies when they have ignored them before? Had they been 'taken to task' then, we would still have multiple browsers to choose from. I have read the "Proposed Final Judgment" in its entirety. For every remedy, there is a fine print loophole that Microsoft can use to do nothing. This "Proposed Final Judgment" is a travesty.

Where do these remedies address to problem of Microsoft forcing us to buy a version of their operating system when we purchase a computer? When I purchase a computer, I am buying hardware. I will choose what operating system meets my needs best. I do not want it forced on me. Do you people actually think that Microsoft Windows is the best that the human species is capable of? If not, how can this better one even have the slightest chance of 'getting its head above water for air' with a system of forced purchase of the other guys product in place.

And now, what about media players and image processors? These two things have been bundled with the latest Microsoft 'operating system et.al.'. How many more little companies, you know the ones that actually take the risk in _first_ developing this software, are going to die off because 'Johnny come lately' Microsoft is now bundling lesser copies of their work with an 'operating system'. Microsoft is only using these people as developers and marketing so later they can leverage them right out of existence by bundling to an 'operating system' declared as an monopoly.

I know the computer industry has fallen upon hard times, but this does not change the law. Microsoft was in violation of the Sherman antitrust act. From where I sit, you have done nothing to stop them. You will not even slow them down.

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Regards,

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